22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

114 136 remains of many half-eaten fish lay on the banks. The bears are said by Kittlitz and others only to eat the head and upper part when the salmon are plentiful, but in almost every case we found that, though the head had been crunched up, it had, together with the tail and intestines, invariably been rejected. We were never fortunate enough to witness these animals fishing, but we were told that they walk slowly into the water where it is about eighteen inches in depth, and facing down stream, stand motionless awaiting their prey. The incautious fish, swimming heedlessly up the river, doubtless mistakes the bear's broad legs for a rock or tree-stump, and those who have once witnessed the almost lightning-like rapidity of a stroke from Bruin's fore-paws will have no difficulty whatever in completing the drama for themselves. The fish is apparently always taken to the bank to be devoured, for even the small ones do not seem to be eaten whole.

552 144 157 161 177 361 Sherowmy, or Sherowm,—for the Kamschatkans are fond of clipping the exuberance of their words, and turn Kamakoffakaya into Kamaki,—is a pretty little village of nine houses and forty-three inhabitants, situated on a branch of the Kamschatka River close to its junction with the latter. To the south lie a few acres of level grass and land enclosed by rough fencing, which give a home-like effect and an air of permanence which is wanting in most Kamschatkan settlements; while to the west and north flows the river, its banks thickly clothed with trees. The people, although a more or less mixed race, as are those of all the villages we had hitherto visited, nevertheless exhibited strong evidences of their Kamschatdale origin, and the high cheek-bones and general duskiness of complexion were in some cases very noticeable. They were very civil and willing to help us; and later in our journey we learnt to hail the preponderance of the Kamschatdale element with pleasure, for we then felt sure of meeting with none of the surliness of demeanour and barefaced extortion that seemed to be the leading characteristics of the half-breed Siberian Russians.